

Water Neutrality Statement for the Construction of a Barn at Spring Farm, Woodland Lane, Colgate, RH13 6HU

1. Introduction

In 2021, Natural England issued a Position Statement highlighting that all new developments within the Sussex North Water Supply Zone must not increase the overall water consumption in the area. Horsham District Council, in line with this guidance, requires that planning applications demonstrate 'water neutrality' or show that the proposed development will not have a significant adverse effect on water resources.

This statement has been prepared to address these requirements in relation to the proposed barn at Spring Farm. It demonstrates that the development will not lead to any increase in water demand within the water supply zone.

2. The Proposed Building

The proposed development comprises a steel-framed, steel-clad barn intended solely for general storage purposes. The building will not include any internal fit-out, bathrooms, kitchens, or facilities requiring water supply. There will be no plumbing, taps, sinks, or other water-using appliances installed in the barn. The structure is designed purely for storage and associated operational activities that do not require water.

3. Water Supply and Proposed Water Consumption

The barn will not be connected to the mains water supply. No water will be required or consumed in the building for its intended use. Any potential water needs for cleaning or maintenance will be managed externally using water brought on site in limited quantities if necessary, such as via stored water in containers or bowzers. These minor activities are negligible in terms of overall water consumption and will not impact the local water supply.

4. Sustainable Measures and Design Considerations

Although no mains water will be used, the design of the barn ensures that there are no foreseeable changes in water usage now or in the future. The building is fully sealed and secure, preventing any inadvertent water usage or leakage. No irrigation, landscaping, or water-dependent operations are associated with this development.

5. Conclusion

Based on the proposed design and intended use of the barn, and the confirmed lack of connection to mains water, it is concluded that this development will have **zero additional water consumption**. Consequently, the barn will achieve full compliance with the Water Neutrality Policy and will not contribute to increased water demand in the Sussex North Water Supply Zone.

6. Declaration

This statement is made in good faith based on the current design and intended use of the building. Any future modifications that would require water supply will be subject to further assessment and compliance with relevant water neutrality requirements.

R Hogan